

***EURYTOMA MAYRI* ASHMEAD (HYM.: EURYTOMIDAE)
AND *TORYMUS RUBI* (SCHRANK) (HYM.: TORYMIDAE):
INSECTS NEW TO IRELAND**

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THERE ARE FEW IRISH RECORDS of the cynipid *Diastrophus rubi* (Bouché) (O'Connor and Bond, 1996; O'Connor and Nash, 1998). The species causes galls on *Rubus* and was only known on the island from specimens reared from three galls found in the south-west and south-east (counties Cork, Kerry and Wexford). As it is common in Britain (Spooner and Bowdrey, 2000), *D. rubi* was an inexplicably rare Irish insect since its food plants are widespread and abundant. On 27 April 2000, the author was surprised, therefore, to discover hundreds of galls on *Rubus* growing on the sand dunes at Woodstown beach, Co. Waterford (Irish grid reference S 6905). This site is also in the south-east. Several galls were collected and subsequently stored in plastic bags in the outside passage of a suburban house. Numerous causers commenced emerging on 2 May and continued to do so until 28 May. Their identity was confirmed as *D. rubi* using Eady and Quinlan (1963).

On 15 May, eurytomids also appeared in the bags and over 100 ♂♂ ♀♀ hatched until 25 June. A torymid appeared on 29 May and, by 3 July, 1 ♂ 13 ♀♀ torymids had emerged. Using Zerova (1988), the eurytomids were identified as *Eurytoma mayri* Ashmead – a known parasitoid of *D. rubi* and *D. mayri* Reinhard. This species is new to Ireland. It has been previously recorded from Austria, Belgium, Great Britain, Hungary, Spain and the U.S.S.R. (Noyes, 1998).

The torymids were determined as *Torymus rubi* (Schrank), another species new to Ireland, using Graham and Gijswijt (1998). *T. rubi* has been reared from the galls of *D. rubi*, *Diplolepis rosae* (L.) (Hym.: Cynipidae), *Perrisia acrophilae* Winnertz (Dipt.: Cecidomyiidae) and *Stereonychus fraxini* (Col.: Curculionidae). It is widely distributed in Europe (Austria, Belgium, Croatia, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Great Britain, Poland, Spain and The Netherlands).

The Irish eurytomid and torymid faunas are poorly known (O'Connor, Nash and Bouček, 2000). The above additions bring the number of species to 18 for the former and 33 for the latter. This contrasts with some 91 and 75 species respectively reported from Great Britain.

Voucher specimens have been deposited in the National Museum of Ireland.

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***Chrysoteuchia culmella* (L.) (Lep.: Pyralidae) flight period**

An article in this journal (*Ent. Rec.* **112**: 272) suggests that the normal flight period of *Chrysoteuchia culmella* is June and July. My own observations in Bedfordshire are that this species is regularly on the wing during August, and in the last few years also in September.

Between 1974 and 1995 this moth was recorded from week 24 (11-17 June), with early records in 1988, week 23 and 1992, week 22 (28 May - 3 June). In 1998 a single record in week 19 (7-13 May) is assumed to be an aberration.

In most years the flight period was continuous until about week 33 (13-19 August). Isolated late records in both 1977 and 1982 were week 37 (10-16 September). In 1985 and 1995 last records were in week 36 (3-9 September). These flight periods were published in *The Butterflies and Moths of Bedfordshire* (Arnold, V.W., Baker, C.R.B., Manning, D.V., and Woiwod, L.P. 1997, Bedfordshire Natural History Society)

In the last four years the flight period has been continuous, with records in each week as follows:

	from	to
1996	week 23	week 37 (10-16 September)
1997	week 23	week 34 (20-26 August)
1998	week 24	week 36 (3-9 September)
1999	week 23	week 34 (20-26 August)

The records in recent years appear to show an extended emergence, rather than a second generation of moths.— DAVID MANNING, 27 Glebe Rise, Sharnbrook, Bedford MK44 1JB.